

Marshfield and Plainfield Energy and Climate Change committee  
Monthly meeting minutes, September 2nd, 2019, 7:00pm  
Upstairs library area

Committee members in attendance: Nick Seifert, Becky Wigg, Wes Cate

Members of the public in attendance: Michael Cerulli Billingsly

- Select a facilitator
  - Becky volunteered
- Public comment
  - None
- Announcements
  - Shared Bob Atchinson's email about the non-violent training on 9/3 and 9/10.
- Approval of previous minutes
  - Motioned and seconded.
- Business
  - Marshfield dam discussion (if needed)
    - Michael briefly discussed the resolution that Plainfield passed regarding the alarm system for the marshfield dam. Michael also briefly discussed some past events related to the tabletop exercise in May, and how this informed changes needed to the emergency action plan. These changes include GMP notifying a larger number of individuals in Plainfield about an imminent dam failure, as well as to contact Washington west and activate the marshfield fire station's emergency siren with a unique sequence. GMP has indicated they aren't willing to do this because the emergency action plan for Plainfield does not include this requirement.
    - Becky indicated that she understands the request, and will reach out to Bobbi. She is going to ask for time at the next selectboard to discuss the emergency action plan for Marshfield Dam No. 6. She will refer to Michael's email with the resolution related to this. She is also going to reach out to Tom McClay (Marshfield's Emergency Management Director), to let him know we are hoping to do this and to find out if he will support this and could attend the same selectboard meeting.
    - Michael discussed developments related to the PUC case, including the hearing officer, and the status of the case. Michael, and Plainfield, had submitted a letter requesting clarification on the status of the case, and laying out specific concerns related to a memorandum of understanding that GMP and the PUC had filed as part of the case. GMP objected to this, but the new hearing officer said there was enough of a question to merit a status update meeting. At this status meeting the hearing officer requested that GMP respond specifically to the independent dam engineer's safety report (no concerns from ANR). GMP has done this, and submitted the document on Friday the 30th of August. Michael is requesting help to review the filing in the PUC case to determine document numbers which are relevant to their concerns.
    - Becky said she would try to figure out the document numbers, and the dates these were filed, by Plainfield.

- Michael mentioned that the group who the PUC hired to evaluate the claims of the two parties with respect to the health and status of the dam. GZA GeoEnvironmental, and their staff member who is doing this is named Craig. (Michael did not have his last name).
- Model communities / RAMP program update
  - Nick gave a brief report on the Energy Task Force's two main focuses: Twinfield weatherization, as well as modern wood heat.
    - There is a meeting on Wednesday the 4th at 6:00pm at the Plainfield town hall.
  - Wes gave a RAMP Transportation Task Force meeting update. They met last week, and discussed the following:
    - Creating a multi-modal transportation option/solution. The discussion was around/about trying to create an app that would help/do this.
  - Michael gave an update on the Village Center and Route 2 group.
    - The discussions in the group centered around creating a resource map/index for the villages. Rich Baker has taken a lead in this area. Michale missed the meeting where this was presented, so doesn't have the most current information.
    - They also discussed some marketing type ideas around promoting the area, including "Destination upper winooski", since Cabot/Marshfield/Plainfield are the towns where the headwaters of the Winooski form.
    - Becky indicated that two groups formed out of this task force. One of those is focusing on vacant buildings. The other group is focused on VTRANS related issues. Both of these groups have challenges, so more to come on how this goes.
- Discussion about what to do at the Fall Foliage Festival (if needed)
  - Anne is planning to do something related to RAMP, and indicated that anyone who is interested should contact her about this.
- Plainfield update
  - No one from Plainfield is present.
- Draft agenda for next meeting
  - Select a facilitator
  - Public comment
  - Announcements
  - Approval of previous minutes
  - Business
    - Marshfield dam discussion (if needed)
    - Model communities / RAMP program update
    - Discussion about what to do at the Fall Foliage Festival (if needed)
    - Plainfield update
    - Draft agenda for next meeting